

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: June 25, 2019

Time: 10:30am

Place: Town Hall

Egremont

Present at the table were Chair George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie. Also present was Road Superintendent James Noe, and Rob Faulkner and John Morgan of CHA group.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

Rob and John presented the preliminary engineering plans for the Mount Washington Road reconstruction project.

The reconstruction will extend 200' into Mount Washington. The project includes a full reconstruction of the roadway and 3 bridge replacements. The roadway is currently 2 11' lanes with no shoulders with deteriorating surface, poor base and inadequate drainage.

There will be no change in the posted speed limits. There were 12 crashes from 2012 to 2014. Approximately 900 vehicles travel the roadway each day based on counts taken in July of 2018.

In some areas where it is practical the roadway will be widened. Drainage will be improved. Erosion issues will be repaired and stabilized. Curbing will be installed in the areas where the slope is steep. The grade will be maintained. Reconstruction will not necessarily improve flooding but the widening of the bridges and the repair of the drainage ways will help the water flow.

An overlay of blacktop would only hold up for about 5 years.

Challenges:

Mass DOT standards call for a 30' wide roadway. The topography along Mount Washington Road only allows for 21'-28' plus a ditch. A design exception will be sought from MassDOT. That submission should take place in July, 2019 with review comments expected back from MassDOT in September.

Bridge 1 was built in 1900 and is currently 10' long and 26' wide, it will be replaced with a 25' long by 28' wide bridge. The water main that goes along the bridge will be buried under the brook. While under construction one lane of traffic will be maintained.

Bridge 2 was built in 1952. Again it will be replaced with a longer and wider bridge. The roadway will be closed for one construction season with traffic detouring up the Avenue during this construction.

Bridge 3 was built in 1934. It will be replaced with a longer and wider bridge and one lane of traffic will be maintained during construction.

CHA has done the outreach to all the environmental agencies. During the 75% design preparation all environmental permits will be applied for.

Karner Brook, embankments and slopes and the houses close the roadway are all challenges.

Stone slopes will be installed to stabilize the steep slopes. The impacts will be minimized and they will be as aesthetically pleasing as possible, as well retaining walls and guard rails.

It was agreed that CHA will put together a similar presentation as to what they did a year ago for the September 17 town meeting and all will get together again in early September. This needs to be sold at Special Town Meeting in a manner to assure passage of the additional funding needed.

Time line:

July, 2019 - submit design exception

September, 2019 - feedback from MassDOT

Complete 25% design later fall - end October early November.

MassDOT has 90 days to review.

December/January - present for TIP programming

Early 2020 formal design to MassDOT and public hearing

2024/2025 funding on TIP list

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.19/jun25

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.